

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PARAMA 00682 251247Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 SSO-00 /029 W
-----064907 251252Z /45
O 251220Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3514

UNCLAS PARAMARIBO 0682

FOR ARA/CAR HEAVNER FROM ZURHELLEN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (YOUNG ANDREW)
SUBJECT: BRIEFING PAPERS FOR YOUNG VISIT

REF: STATE 171571

1. FOR AN UNCLASSIFIED POLITICAL BRIEFING PAPER FOR PRESS AND OTHERS IN PARTY, AS WELL AS FOR THE BACKGROUND INFO OF OFFICIALS WHO WILL ALSO GET CLASSIFIED PAPERS, WE SUGGEST YOU TAKE 76 PARAMARIBO 0910, WHICH WAS DONE IN CONNECTION WITH AIDSAT DEMONSTRATION LAST FALL, WITH FOLLOWING CHANGES:

2. IN PARA 3, CHANGE SENTENCE READING "IT IS EXPECTED THAT SURINAM WILL SHORTLY APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES" TO "SURINAM JOINED THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES EARLY IN 1977, A DECISION WHICH CLEARLY INDICATES SURINAM'S DESIRE TO TAKE ON A WESTERN HEMISPHERE IDENTITY."

3. INSERT A NEW SECTION BETWEEN PARAS 4 AND 5. THIS NEW SECTION SHOULD READ:

"SURINAM'S PARLIAMENT SITS FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS AND THE PRESENT PARLIMENT BEGAN IN 1973, TWO YEARS BEFORE
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INDEPENDENCE. NOW, ON OCTOBER 31, 1977, THE FIRST GENERAL ELECTIONS UNDER SURINAM'S CONSTITUTION AS AN INDEPENDENT NATION WILL BE HELD. THE TWO YEARS SINCE THE SEVERING OF POLITICAL TIES WITH THE NETHERLANDS HAVE SHOWN SOME OF THE GROWING PAINS THAT NEW NATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO, BUT THE 20-YEAR HISTORY OF INTERNAL SELF-GOVERNMENT HAS PROVIDED EXPERIENCE AND STABILITY WHICH HAVE

ENABLED THE COUNTRY TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN DEPENDENCY AND INDEPENDENCE WITH A MINIMUM OF DISLOCATION. A NETHERLANDS AID PROGRAM OF VERY SUBSTANTIAL PROPORTIONS IS SUPPLYING CAPITAL FOR ECONOMIC PROGRESS, AND A SMALL MILITARY FORCE IS BEING DEVELOPED TO PROVIDE NATIONAL SECURITY. WHAT THE VOTERS WILL HAVE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN, THEN, WILL NOT BE ALTERNATIVES CALLING FOR FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES IN THE DIRECTION IN WHICH SURINAM IS GOING, BUT BETWEEN TWO MAJOR GROUPS WHICH PROPOSE TO CONTINUE ALONG THE PRESENT BASIC LINES, WITH EACH ASSERTING THAT IT CAN DO THE JOB BETTER.

"THE NATIONAL PARTY COMBINATION (NPK) UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE PRESENT PRIME MINISTER, MR. HENCK ARRON, CONSISTS OF SEVERAL PARTIES, PRINCIPALLY CREOLE IN ORIGIN BUT WITH SIGNIFICANT JAVANESE AND SOME HINDUSTANI COMPONENTS. THE OPPONENTS, HEADED BY MR. JAGGERNATH LACHMON, WHO HAS LED THE HINDUSTANI PARTIES ALMOST CONTINUOUSLY SINCE THE END OF WORLD WAR II, ALSO HAS A JAVANESE COMPONENT AND EXPECTS TO ATTRACT AT LEAST SOME CREOLES. THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN IS ALREADY UNDERWAY, AND IT WILL BE FOUGHT HARD. WHATEVER THE OUTCOME OF THE ELECTION, THERE IS NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THERE WILL BE ANY ADVERSE EFFECT ON SURINAM-AMERICAN RELATIONS OR ON THE GENERAL POLICY OF SURINAM IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS."

4. FOR A SIMILAR UNCLASSIFIED ECONOMIC BRIEFING PAPER,
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USE 76 PARAMARIBO 0907, WITH THE DELETION OF THE LAST SENTENCE IN PARA FOUR BEGINNING WITH "AIDSAT TECHNIQUES" AND ENDING "PROFITABLY EXPLOITED."
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